



## 2022 Annual Membership Meeting & Picnic

We were so happy to see many RAHS members, along with their families and friends, join us for the return of the Annual Membership Meeting and Picnic. After a two-year break it was wonderful to be together again! Around 50 people enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner of chicken, many sides, salads and desserts, and a lovely cake donated by the Home Bakery. In keeping with our 1950s Sock Hop theme, the Calf Barn at the Rochester Hills Museum was festively decorated, and tunes from the 50s provided the background for lively conversations among friends new and old. We enjoyed a 1950s-themed trivia contest and appreciated those who dressed up for the event.

Thank you to our Picnic committee members Sarah B.H. Helferich, Janet Raymond, Carla Gallusser, and Katie Stozicki for hosting a great event!

Thank you to our generous business donors who provided prizes for the trivia and best dressed contest winners.

We hope even more members can join us at our next annual picnic, traditionally held on the second Wednesday in June.

### Board Members Receive Honors

RAHS President, Tiffany Dziurman, and Vice President, Sarah B. H. Helferich, were awarded historic preservation honors from the local National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Stoney Creek Chapter.

Tiffany was awarded the Historic preservation medal for her numerous contributions to the community and preservation efforts.

Sarah was awarded a Historic preservation certificate for her community service contributions concerning historic preservation.



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are in the swing of summer, and I hope you are enjoying these long summer days and nights. July marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for RAHS and a new year of programs and events. It's also the start of a new membership year, so if you haven't yet renewed your RAHS membership, I encourage you to renew online at [rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/product/membership](https://rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/product/membership). Your RAHS membership still provides free access to the Rochester Hills Museum's tours, standing exhibits, and grounds.

Our new season of programs begins in September and the programming lineup will be scheduled differently this year. Many of our members let us know that it was difficult to attend two programs in a week since Brown Bag lunchtime programs are on the first Tuesday of the month and evening lectures are on the first Thursday of the month. The board decided to provide one program per month and add the month of December back to the schedule.

#### **Thursday Evening Lecture Dates (Rochester Hills Public Library):**

- September 8 (due to Labor Day holiday weekend)
- November 3
- February 2
- April 6

#### **Brown Bag Tuesday Program Dates (Rochester Hills Museum):**

- October 4
- December 6
- March 7
- May 2

To that end, RAHS really needs a Program Committee – one to three volunteers who are willing to contact presenters and schedule them for programs. RAHS has a speaker budget and presents topics on Michigan history. This is a fun activity and you get to meet historians and history enthusiasts who are passionate about Michigan history. If you are interested, please contact us at [rahupdates@gmail.com](mailto:rahupdates@gmail.com). I sincerely hope you can help.

Please note that RAHS does not hold programs in July or August. So enjoy the lazy, crazy days of summer and time with friends and family. We'll see you in September!

*Tiffany Dziurman*



*Tiffany Dziurman*  
RAHS President

# ADMINISTRATION BUILDING UPDATE

We want to share with you some news that is now available to the public. Last spring, RAHS took the initial steps to nominate the Administration Building to the National Register of Historic Places. It was a hopeful endeavor, but we also knew the realities of a property that has been modified and changed drastically over the years. Upon review and a tour, etc. The Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (MSHPO) has determined that the building, as a whole, is not eligible for National Register status.

However, the oldest portion of the building, the Harrison Building (Avon School District No. 5), will remain on the State Register of Historic Places. MSHPO also stated: ". . . the Avon School District No. 5 School appears to have been significant in the educational history of the Rochester community. The buildings and additions that today form the Rochester Community Schools Administration Building relate to and illustrate the growth of the community, changes in state and local educational policies, and the changes to educational architectural styles and forms."

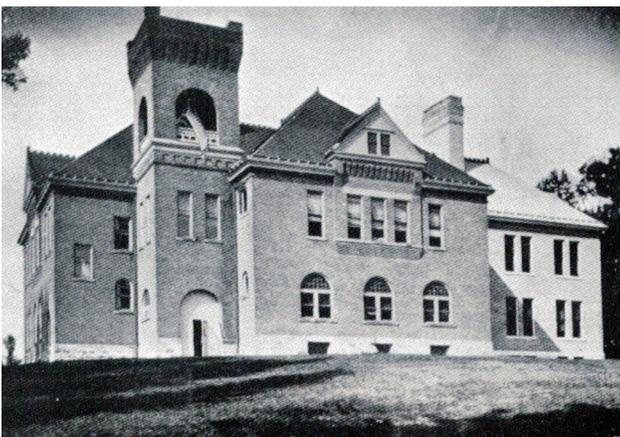
Additionally, MSHPO stated: "the school may be eligible for listing as a contributing resource within a historic district that considers the community development and planning significance of the described neighborhood. A historic resources survey should be undertaken to determine if a historic district is present, if it possesses significance, and if it retains integrity. A historic resources survey should also identify preliminary boundaries and other potential areas of significance."

Historic district status would need to come from the City of Rochester. The surveys were completed a few years ago.

While this news seems disappointing, it is not surprising and RAHS is proud to have taken these initial steps. Please continue to express your support for the historic preservation of the administration building.

You may read MSHPO's letter in [full here](#). This letter is addressed to members of the Rochester-Avon Historical Society and not to the Rochester Community School Administration. The initial step in the National Register nomination process was one RAHS could take without permission from RCS.

The Legacy Committee still does not have a scheduled meeting on the calendar and RCS has decided not to submit any of the seven proposals received in March to the Board of Education.



# RAHS Member Picnic Photos



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

In case you haven't heard, Karen M. Lemon is filling Richard Dengate's remaining term as Membership Director for the new fiscal year beginning July 1. Richard is filling the remainder of Mary Howarth's term as the Treasurer. Mary is an avid volunteer and has decided to continue her work in other areas, but will remain a RAHS member. Thank you, Mary!

RAHS members may have noticed their membership renewal letters, sent out this past May, were signed by Karen. Richard eased me into this new responsibility by helping me with the mailing, teaching me the ropes, and, more importantly, helping to hand-address the envelopes! By the way, RAHS would like to thank the members who have taken the time to send their paperwork and payment or gone online to renew their memberships! In this current subscription period, we had a former member return to RAHS, yeah! One member decided to forgo all future renewal letters and changed their membership to "Life." I like that idea, a lifetime supporter!

In case you haven't guessed, I'm Karen and I am very excited and proud to be serving on such a worthwhile and necessary committee. History is my passion, and Rochester is my kind of town. I look forward to meeting all of our members.

-- Karen Lemon



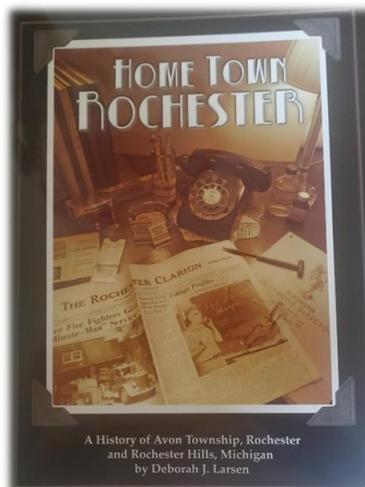
June  
2022  
Community  
Involvement



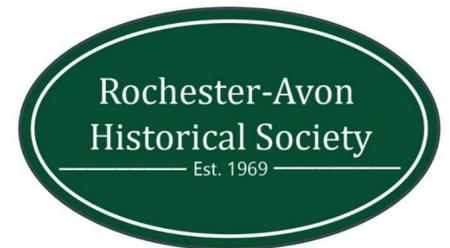
# RAHS Merchandise



History in the Heart of the Hills: A  
Rochester Area Heritage Tour (Book)  
**\$10.00**



Hometown Rochester (book)  
**\$10.00**



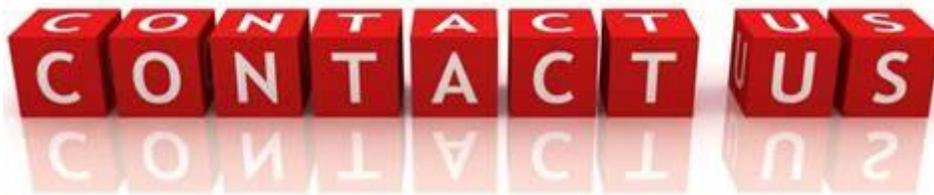
RAHS Car Decal  
**\$6.00**



To contact us, call (248) 656-5440 or email to rahsupdates@gmail.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tiffany Dziurman, President  
 Sarah B.H. Helferich, Vice President  
 Richard Dengate, Treasurer  
 Janet Raymond, Secretary  
 Katie Stozicki, Communications Director  
 Carla Gallusser, ERA Newsletter Director  
 Karen Lemon, Membership Director



## Join the Rochester-Avon Historical Society Today!!

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- |                               |                       |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> NEW     | <input type="radio"/> | <b>\$18</b> Student – Currently enrolled in secondary or post-secondary educational institution.   |
| <input type="radio"/> RENEWAL | <input type="radio"/> | <b>\$25</b> Individual – Person interested in local history.   |
|                               | <input type="radio"/> | <b>\$45</b> Household – Includes immediate family members living in the same household.  |
|                               | <input type="radio"/> | <b>\$125</b> Business/Sponsor – Designed for community businesses and individuals with a desire to promote the restoration and promotion of local history. |
|                               | <input type="radio"/> | <b>\$250</b> Lifetime – Perpetual membership for those who wish to make a long-term commitment to the preservation of local history                        |



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Picnic         | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Walking Tour Guide/Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antique Appraisal Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography/Videography               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Research     | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments at Meetings              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising           | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Project Volunteer             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy Research    | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site/Multimedia                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Days         | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Interests/Other: _____      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral History          |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publications          |  |

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form to RAHS, P.O. Box 80783, Rochester, MI 48308-0783 or**  
<https://www.rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/product/membership/>

# BUSINESS SPONSORS



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To Our Sponsors